News From the 2005 White House Conference on Aging

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New Jersey Delegates to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging Announced

The 2005 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) today announced the names of 20 delegates who will represent the state of New Jersey at the conference to be held in Washington, DC from December 11 to 14, 2005. The delegation consists of 5 delegates named by Acting Governor Richard J. Codey and 15 named by members of New Jersey's Congressional delegation.*

Twelve hundred delegates from throughout the country will participate in the 2005 WHCoA, the fifth such conference in our nation's history. Delegates will vote on resolutions and develop implementation strategies that will help the President and Congress shape aging policies for the next ten years and beyond. WHCoA Policy Committee Chairman Dorcas R. Hardy said, "Each of us has an incredible opportunity to take action that will benefit current and future generations of American seniors. I look forward to greeting all the delegates when they come to Washington, DC energized and ready to make history."

The theme for the 2005 WHCoA is "The Booming Dynamics of Aging: From Awareness to Action." The theme reflects the changing face of aging in America. The 2005 WHCoA is mandated by the Older Americans Act to focus on the interests and needs of current seniors as well as the 78 million baby boomers who will begin to turn 60 in 2006. Leading up to the WHCoA have been approximately 300 local, state and national events held across the nation involving more than 60,000 people with more anticipated. These events include WHCoA Listening Sessions, Solutions Forums, Mini-Conferences and Independent Aging Agenda Events.

The formula for state distribution of delegates was based on a total of 200 delegates divided among the states, U.S. Territories, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Each state had the opportunity to select a minimum of two delegates. Additional state delegates were based upon each state's percentage of individuals age 55 and older compared to the nation's total population of persons aged 55 and older. Each U.S. Territory, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia had the opportunity to select one delegate. The National Congress of American Indians received an allocation of 19 delegates to ensure representation from the American Indian nations. Each member of the Congressional delegation has named one delegate to the WHCoA. In addition, a number of At-Large Delegates will be selected by the Policy Committee based on an open application process that ends on June 1, 2005. Information about the WHCoA venue will be available shortly. More information about the WHCoA may be found on the website [http://www.whcoa.gov].

* A list of New Jersey's delegates announced by the WHCoA follows. The list represents delegates named by the Governor and Members of Congress. At-Large Delegates, to be selected by the WHCoA Policy Committee, will be announced later by the WHCoA.

NEW JERSEY

Gubernatorial delegates:

Acting Governor Richard Codey

Marilyn Askin	West Orange
Margaret R. Chester	New Brunswick
Mary Ann Martin	Oceanport
Mary Lou McCutcheon	Newton
Patricia Polansky	Trenton

Congressional delegates:

Senator Frank Lautenberg	Marilyn Askin West Orange
Senator John Corzine	Dr. Sy Larson East Brunswick
Rep. Robert Andrews	Joy Merulla Camden
Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen	Althea Lowe Mendham
Rep. Mike Ferguson	Bill Crosby Somerville
Rep. Scott Garrett	Douglas Struyk Wyckoff
Rep. Rush Holt	Gloria Willich Lawrenceville
Rep. Frank LoBiondo	Howard Berger Margate

Rep. Robert Menendez

Victor Barrera
West New York

Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr.

Marilyn Higgins
Spring Lake

Rep. Bill Pascrell

Mary Kuzinski
Wayne

Rep. Donald Payne

LaVerne Alexander
Washington, D.C.

Rep. Steven Rothman

Paul A. Sarlo
Wood-Ridge

Rep. Jim Saxton

D. Jane Maloney
Toms River

Rep. Christopher H. Smith

Marie-Elena O'Connor
Toms River

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